

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Rule 53(b) Continuation Application
of Serial No. 08/895,493

Makoto SAITO

Serial Number: Not Yet Assigned

Group Art Unit: 2766 (prior)

Filed: Herewith

Examiner: H. Sayadian (prior)

For: **METHOD FOR CONTROLLING DATA BASE COPYRIGHTS**

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

April 7, 2000

Sir:

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36. Please amend the above-captioned Continuation patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please **CANCEL** Claims 1-22 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein.

Please **ADD** New Claims 23-50 as follows:

23. A digital data management method, comprising the steps of:
encrypting digital data to produce encrypted digital data supplied to a user;
using a utilization permit key to manage said digital data, said utilization permit key
being a display permit key, an edit permit key, a storage permit key, a copy permit key, and/or
a transfer permit key;